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JAN 28 1993

GOLDEN GATE CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

4701 Golden Gate Parkway  
Golden Gate, Florida 33999

FCC MAIL ROOM

Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

January 22, 1993

RE: MM Docket 92-266

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JAN 28 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Commissioners:

Our organization wishes to oppose the FCC's proposed "benchmarking method" to set basic cable rates and to determine if additional tier rates are reasonable.

The use of "benchmark rates" heavily relies on an assumption that cable rates where competition exists are truly representative of what cable rates should be. We question that assumption since mature cable marketplace competition is rare, programming has not been readily available at competitive prices for the so-called overbuilds and markets where competitive systems exist tend to buy one or the other out.

We urge the FCC to adopt the traditional return-of-investment (cost-of-service) method which has proven successful in regulating utilities throughout the country. There are several advantages to this method, including (1) the public has confidence in the return on investment method, (2) the public understands this process, (3) there are established standards and (4) the return on investment method results in credible, supportable rates.

We also urge the FCC to provide itself and local government rate roll back authority as well as authority to require rate refunds to customers for over charges.

Your consideration of these points is necessary to accomplish fair and reasonable cable rates.

Sincerely,

*Chuck Stephens, Pres.*

cc: Collier County Commissioners  
City of Naples Council Members  
Rep. Porter Goss  
Senator Connie Mack  
Senator Bob Graham

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List A B C D E

Ms. Donna Searcy, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW  
Washington, DC 20554  
Regarding: Comments in MM Docket 92-266

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
(OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY)


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In the hope that more varied information may be transmitted on our public airwaves, I suggest the implementation of a fee schedule for leased access channels which would feature lower rates for non-profit organizations.

I think this to be in the interest of all Americans. Our country thrives on its diversity of opinions, cultures, and beliefs. With so much of our information coming from a few large media outlets (CNN, ABC, NBC, CBS), many of our information needs go unmet. Programming that does not restrict itself to advertiser approved topics can only improve cable television's quality.

The potential for non-profit networks that will serve the public interest in the emerging fiber optic and multichannel marketplace is great. This further democratization of our airwaves will not only bring a broader circle of people into the Information Age but will provide more critical forums for discussions on the environment, energy, and transportation.

sincerely,



Jeff Spakowski

Jeff Spakowski  
180 Prospect 2A  
Cambridge, MA 02139

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JAN 28 1993

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*Frank Store Association, Inc.*

P O BOX 1435

NAPLES FLORIDA 33939 1435

January 25, 1993

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Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street N.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

JAN 29 1993

RE: MM Docket

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
92-066

Dear Commissioners:

Our organization wishes to oppose the FCC's proposed "benchmarking method" to set basic cable rates and to determine if additional tier rates are reasonable.

The use of "benchmark rates" heavily relies on an assumption that cable rates where competition exists are truly representative of what cable rates should be. We question that assumption since mature cable marketplace competition is rare, programming has not been readily available at competitive prices for the so-called overbuilds and markets where competitive systems exist tend to buy one or the other out.

We urge the FCC to adopt the traditional return-of-investment (cost-of-service) method which has proven successful in regulating utilities throughout the country. There are several advantages to this method, including (1) the public has confidence in the return on investment method, (2) the public understands this process, (3) there are established standards and (4) the return on investment method results in credible, supportable rates.

We also urge the FCC to provide itself and local government rate roll back authority as well as authority to require rate refunds to customers for over charges. Our cable operator is planning an 8.5% increase on February 1 after the effective date of the 1992 Cable Act. Rates increases since de-regulation in 1986 will be over 150% when the latest rate increase takes effect. We as a community as well as the FCC needs to have a remedy to over charges.

Your consideration of these points is necessary to accomplish fair and reasonable cable rates.

Sincerely,

*W. Franklin Ellis*  
W. Franklin Ellis, President

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xc: Collier County Commissioners  
City of Naples Council Members  
Rep. Porter Goss  
Senator Connie Mack  
Senator Bob Graham  
Chairman Jack Clifford, Colony Communications  
P.O. Box 969, Providence, RI 02901

# ARTIST TRUST

A RESOURCE FOR WASHINGTON

1402 THIRD AVENUE, SUITE 415  
SEATTLE, WA 98101  
(206) 467-8734  
FAX (206) 467-9633

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

22 January 1993

Ms. Donna Searcy, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Comments in MM Docket 92-266

Dear Ms. Searcy:

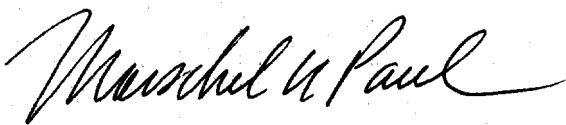
The FCC requested comment on whether it should establish preferential leased access channel rates for not-for-profit programmers. (NMRP paragraph 153.) Artist Trust urges the FCC to set preferential non-profit rates for leased access channels.

Artist Trust serves film and video producers, as well as artists in all other disciplines, through grants and information that can help them identify sources of funding and technical assistance. In addition, as an organization which educates the public about the crucial contributions artists make to society, we have a great interest in making television a more affordable medium for educators and artists across the spectrum. Commercial networks are not capable of serving the community needs of locally-based programmers or the artists we represent.

New non-profit networks and local channels would be able to expand the availability of programs aimed at meeting the needs of under-served communities with cultural, informational, and educational programming. There could be an expansion of programming geared towards the elderly, communities of people of color, and other communities that are most ignored by commercial networks. Of course, the emergence of these services would rely on the ability to gain access to these "leased access" channels through low rates.

Congress mandated "leased access" channels to insure a diversity of information sources for the public. Non-profits are uniquely capable of meeting this need. Artist Trust strongly encourages you to make this opportunity a reality as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Marschel H. Paul,  
Executive Director

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